

Gambler Island One-Shot – Short Version:

Author: James “DragonMaster” Courneya

Genre: Gambling, Psychological, Thriller.

Page Count: 20

Synopsis:

In a high-end casino, the crowd goes wild, as someone just won big. After picking up his chips and flirting with the dealer, the man turns around, walking into two guards. Being carried away, he tries to bribe his way out, to no avail. Being brought to the V.I.P lounge. He is sat in front of the casino's Boss. The old man says he enjoyed Faust's game. Then he reveals that they caught his card counting on camera. This however, just impresses the Boss even more. So, he challenges the young man to a game. Win and he goes home, with his previous and new winnings. Lose and he will be shipped off to an island, to work his debt off. Faust replies with:

“Win big or go bust? That's the gambler's way after all! We have a deal.”

With this, a game is picked off of a dart board. Having landed on “Two-face poker” the rules are explained. Poker, but on the flop, the players choose one card to reveal to the table. The game commences. After an intense back and forth, it becomes clear that the house is cheating, somehow. Suffering a crippling loss, Faust tries to slink away, but ends up getting knocked out.

Waking up a cruise liner. Faust walks around finding himself in a room full of people. Soon, a screen with the Boss on it comes on. After explaining some of the situation, he goes on to say: “You will be gambling for your life.” Faust is promptly horrified by this, with the one shot closing out on the boss saying: “Welcome to Gambler Island!”

Logline:

A gambler gets caught cheating in a casino and is challenged to a game by the owner, with the stakes of walking free with far more money or paying off the debt. After taking and losing this challenge, the gambler realizes just how outmatched he was by the sadistically intelligent older man. He is then knocked out and taken to an island along with a hundred other gamblers. Where they are instructed to take part in various games where they will be gambling their lives.

Name/Panel Layouts:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1mqrLKe8Cz01JN1aKeLApPgFNkv_RxxqQ?usp=sharing

Character Design References.

Faust:



Boss:



Second Hand - SH:



Gambler Island One-Shot Script:

Page 1:

Interior – Casino:



Panel 1 – Top wide panel:

Excited people, crowding around the table.

Starburst Bubble, across the top of the Panel: We have a big winner!

Panel 2 – Middle panel 1:

(Faust) Hands scooting piles of chips in.

Faust: Like I said, it really seems to be my lucky day.

Panel 3 – Small corner out of second panel:

Flicks chip with thumb.

Faust: A tip for the lovely young lady.

Panel 4 Middle panel 2: Distraught woman (dealer) catches chip.

Faust: Maybe after you get off, we can go spend these winnings somewhere together.

(Bubbles can be used to transition the panels).

Panel 5 – Bottom wide panel:

Background: Group / table.

Midground: Establishing shot of Faust, as he is walking away and waving back. Noticing guards, looks slightly worried. *Realization Mark*

Foreground: Backs of two beefy guards, taking up both sides of the panel. (about to escort him away).

Faust No Bubble: You've been a great crowd.

Faust No Bubble: Uh, uh-oh.

Page 2:

Panel 1:

Faust grabbed by both arms, being carried off. Feet moving in the air, not touching the ground. Being brought towards man (SH) in foreground.

Faust: Fellas can we talk about this? Perhaps I can slip you a couple of chips, so I can be on my way?

Panel 2:

SH establishing shot.

SH: The boss liked your game.

Panel 3:

Faust having been sat in a seat, in front of SH. Forced, twitchy smile.

Faust: Ah well, that's good to hear.

SH: He wants a word with you.

Faust {Thought Bubbled}: Less good to hear.

Panel 4:

Scene transition to VIP room:



Panel 5:

Pulled back shot of Faust looking around.

Faust: Ah, so this is what this place's V.I.P. lounge is like.

Faust {Small, Thought Bubbled}: Nicer than most – I've seen.

Page 3:

Panel 1:

Boss establishing shot. sat in a large chair. Head down, eyes unseen through glasses, hands crossed. Intimidating aura around him.

Panel 2:

Boss's hand extended from the camera (edge of panel), motioning for Faust to take a seat on the couch across from him. Faust, with a tentative look, begins to sit.

Boss: That was some game, Mr. Faust. I found myself very enraptured by it.

Faust: Yes well, what can I say, lady luck was smiling down on me today.

Panel 3:

Boss gives sits up straight and gives a smile.

Boss: Where are my manners though, let me introduce myself. I'm Osman Fachnan, pleasure to meet you.

Panel 4:

Faust giving a sly smile back.

Faust: Pleasures mine.

Faust: Mind if I ask you why you brought me in here?

Panel 5 Bottom, Not in a panel: Close up of Boss's eye over top of glasses.

Boss: That would be on account of your cheating.

Page 4:

Top Panel 1:

Foreground: side shot of Boss and Faust sitting in chairs. Boss points to the screen. Faust looks that way. Background: monitor turns on, with a shot of Faust wearing sunglasses, on it.

(Panel 2-5 are placed within a film roll stretching across the page. The film roll squares are the panels).

Panel 2: Faust glancing at the card table.

Panel 3: Faust walking up to the card table.

Panel 4: Faust Calmly playing

Panel 5: Faust pushing a big stack of chips in.

Panel 6: Faust giving a cheeky smile.

Narration Speech bubbles.

Boss: Observing our style of card dealing.

Boss: Playing slow at the start, with a defensive style.

Boss: Until, late into the cycle, you all of a sudden go in and strike big.

Long panel, Panel 7: Shot of Boss with hand out towards viewer.

Boss: This is one of the clearest cases of card counting I've ever had.

Panel 8: Faust grimacing.

Small panel 9: Shot of boss's mouth/chin.

Boss: But...

Page 5:

Panel 1:

Boss's hands crossed, glasses shining.

Boss: I am willing to overlook these crimes.

Boss: On one condition. Play a game against me.

Boss: Win, you'll take the winnings of tonight, in addition to this game's winnings.

Panel 2:

Faust questing motive.

Boss: Lose and you'll be paying off your crime, on my personal island.

Faust: Why give me this deal?

Panel 3:

Boss holding pointer finger up.

Boss: This is simply an enjoyable pastime for me.

Boss: Besides, that was some of the fastest card counting I have ever seen. I would like to see more.

Panel 4:

Shot of Faust's eye's looking pensive.

Panel 5:

Faust standing firm, looking cocky.

Faust: Win big or go bust? That's the gambler's way after all!

Faust: We have a deal.

Page 6:

Top Panel 1:

Shot of Boss with a creepy, extra wide smile.

Boss: Excellent.

Top Panel 2:

Boss snaps fingers.

Boss: The game shall be chosen, with another game.

Middle Long Panel 3:

Darts board rolled out. Board segmented into little game symbols.

Boss: Throw a dart, to pick our game.

Middle Panel 3: Faust being handed a dart by SH. Faust looking at the dart with an examining look.

Bottom Panel 4:

Faust throws the dart, it strikes the board.

Page 7:

Panel 1:

Shot of segment, the dart hit. Four card symbols surrounding a face, cut in half. One side black, the other not.

Boss: Then, our game has been picked.

Panel 2:

Faust turning back.

Boss: We will be playing — two face poker.

Panel 3:

Lower to upper shot of Boss. Above his head is the Half face symbol. Speech bubbles on either side of him.

Boss: The rules of two face are simple.

Boss: Regular rules of poker apply. After the flop round ends, we must flip one of our cards face up, so the opponent can see it.

Panel 4:

Faust gives a discerning look.

Faust: That's it?

Panel 5:

Boss gives a soft smile.

Boss: Simple right?

Boss: Well then, let us sit down and play.

Page 8:

[() around name – Means Thought bubble]:

Panel 1:

New pack being cut open.

Panel 2:

Overhead shot of dealer throwing out cards.

Panel 3:

A 3♥ and 6♦ being bent up towards the camera, by Faust's hand.

Panel 4:

Faust's eye/corner of head.

(Faust): A 3♥ and 6♦. Straight potential and not much else.

(Faust): Though...

Panel 5:

Back of Faust's head, as he looks at Boss.

(Faust): Perhaps being able to show a weaker card is a type of advantage?

Panel 6:

Shot of chips in foreground and Faust in background, looking down at them.

(Faust): These chips look like...

Page 9:

Panel 1:

Faust shocked.

(Faust): A hundred grand?!

Panel 2:

Faust giving a cold glare to the camera.

(Faust): What are you playing at, old man?

Panel 3:

Boss smiling.

Boss: Start us off with a bet, will you.

Boss: And the buy in of course.

Panel 4:

Faust pushing two sets of chips in with each hand. Arrow (pointed at one), Buy In: 5,000

Arrow (Pointed at other) Bet: 5,000

(Faust): Play the field, see how he moves.

Panel 5:

Boss headshot, staring at camera.

Boss: Call.

Page 10:

Panel 1:

The flop A♦ 8♣ K♥

Panel 2:

Boss flipping a card over, revealing a 2♦

Boss: Time for the open — Open-Handed game to start.

Panel 3:

Faust head shot: Him looking at the card with one eye. Inside the eye is a drawing of 2♦.

Faust: A 2♦, aye. Best to match his tone.

Panel 4:

Faust flipping over 3♥.

Panel 5:

Boss's knuckle taps the table twice. *SFX* Tap Tap

Panel 6:

Torso shot, Faust taps the table.

Faust: A check? Fine.

Panel 7: An Ace hits the field.

Page 11:

Panel 1:

Boss calm, with completely black background behind him.

Boss: All in.

Panel 2:

Faust shocked, with a rippled black background.

Faust: What?!

Panel 3:

Faust' eyes staring at camera.

Panel 4:

Boss's eyes staring at the camera.

Panel 5:

Faust bent forward, with vacant eyes, a bit nervous, sweat drop.

Faust: He's trying to razzle me.

Faust: Nevertheless.

Page 12:

Panel 1:

Faust with a determined look.

Faust: Fold.

Panel 2:

Boss gives a smirk.

Panel 3:

Faust with his eyes closed, sliding his cards towards the dealer.

Faust: Fine, I'm only down a bit.

Panel 4:

Torso shot of the dealer. More cards dealt. Cards coming at camera.

Panel 5:

Cards on table, they are translucent and what's underneath them can be seen. VFX faint glow around the inner edges. 8♥9♥

(Faust): Hmm, interesting.

(Faust): I could get either a straight or a flush with this.

Page 13:

Panel 1:

Lower upper torso shot. Boss setting chips down.

Boss: Bet, 25,000

Panel 2:

Torso shot, Faust giving a restrained smirk.

(Faust): Gosh old guy, you have no chill at all.

Faust: (No Bubble) Call.

Panel 3:

Flop: 10♥ Q♣ Q♥

Panel 4:

Faust Looking composed. Inner thoughts Faust projected behind himself. Excited and devious.

(Faust): Perfect, either a jack or another heart and I should have this pot.

Panel 5:

Faust sitting calmly.

(Faust): We already have some decent chips in, slow roll this.

Faust: Bet, 5,000.

Panel 6:

Boss setting chips down.

Boss: Call.

Page 14:

Panel 1:

Turn 4♠

Panel 2:

Faust biting his thumb. (VFX) 20%-30%

(Faust): Damn it. Even if he's just suited high, he has a good chance to beat this hand, as is.

(Faust): I only have a twenty to thirty percent chance to win this hand.

Panel 3:

Boss sets the chips down.

Boss: Bet, 5,000.

Panel 4:

Faust hesitant.

Faust: Call.

Panel 5: River J♥

Panel 6:

Faust bursting with excitement.

(Faust): A straight flush!

Faust: Bet, 10,000.

Panel 7:

Boss sitting still.

Page 15:

Panel 1:

Boss head shot, eye showing. Black BG.

Boss: All in.

Panel 2:

(Faust): Heh, you fool, I've...

Panel 2:

Faust is shocked. Calculations and math symbols are floating around making up the background. $\frac{1}{649,739}$. $(\frac{1}{4})^{nCr 52}$ and $5 \cdot \frac{52}{5} = 2,598,960$ $(\frac{1}{p}) - 1 : 1$
 $\frac{4}{2,598,960}$

(Faust): It would be a 2.1% chance he would have gotten the right two cards. Moreover, the total odds of him getting the one hand that could beat mine is – 0.000154%.

(Faust): It's not provable. He's just playing fast and loose.

Panel 3:

Faust is incredibly intense with a furious look/aura coming off of him.

Faust: Call.

Panel 4:

Boss smirks.

Page 16:

Panel 1:

Boss with dominating aura, an A♥and K♥ are floating on either side of him. VFX Big bold letters at the top, **Royal Flush.**

Panel 2:

Faust with blank eyes.

Panel 3:

Faust's head hits the table.

Panel 4:

Underneath shot: of Faust's frustrated face.

(Faust): So, they were cheating the whole time.

(Faust): That all in – and this... It was all a part of their trap.

(Faust): But... If I don't know how they did it, I can't do a thing.

Page 17:

Panel 1:

Faust stands up from the table. Eyes closed, big smile.

Faust: Welp, that certainly was an interesting game.

Faust: You know, we really should do it again sometime.

Panel 2:

Pulled back, dynamic shot of Faust as he makes a mad dash away from the table.

Panel 3:

Faust stops short of SH.

Panel 3:

Faust has finger raised and mouth open, as if he is about to say something. Fist coming in fast directed at his eye. (Speed lines) (Blurred Effect)

Panel 4:

Black panel with stars. (SFX) Bak

(Second hand punches him out ([leaving black eye])).

Page 18:

Scene: – Small, cruise-liner, room.

Panel 1:

(Eye opening effect [black surrounding edges of panel forming central Oval) Shot of ceiling

Panel 2:

Shot of Faust's face, he is disoriented and has a black eye.

Panel 3:

Gets up scratching his head and looking around. (Port window visible).

Faust: Where am I?

Panel 4:

Exterior shot of door being opened. Faust walking out rubbing his eye.

Panel 5:

Faust looks down the hallway, the doorway visible at the end.

Page 19:

Panel 1: Faust walks through the doorway into the open room.

Panel 2: Shot of room full of people scattered around, looking either scared or menacing.

Panel 3:

Faust sits down on a bench away from people, hands in pockets, looking out towards where others are standing.

Panel 4 – Sub Panel: Clock. Tick* SFX.

Panel 5:

Side of Faust looking up to where some men in black are gathered. Large screen in the middle of them.

Page 20:

Panel 1:

Big screen recording of the boss comes on and explains the situation.

Boss: Good evening everyone. I'm sure you are curious about what happens next.

Boss: Right now, you are surrounded by the best gamblers my organization could find.

Panel 2:

Shot of the boat approaching the Island.

Boss: You're all being shipped to my own personal island.

Boss: Where you all shall take part in a series of gambles against each other.

Boss: Though, you won't be gambling just money.

Panel 3:

Faust's horrified face.

Boss: You will be gambling for your life.

Panel 4:

Boss with a creepy smile/stare.

Boss: I wish you all luck.

Boss: ...Oh and...

Panel 5:

Shot of blackness.

Boss: Welcome To-

Boss: Gambler Island!